



# COUNTY CLIPS

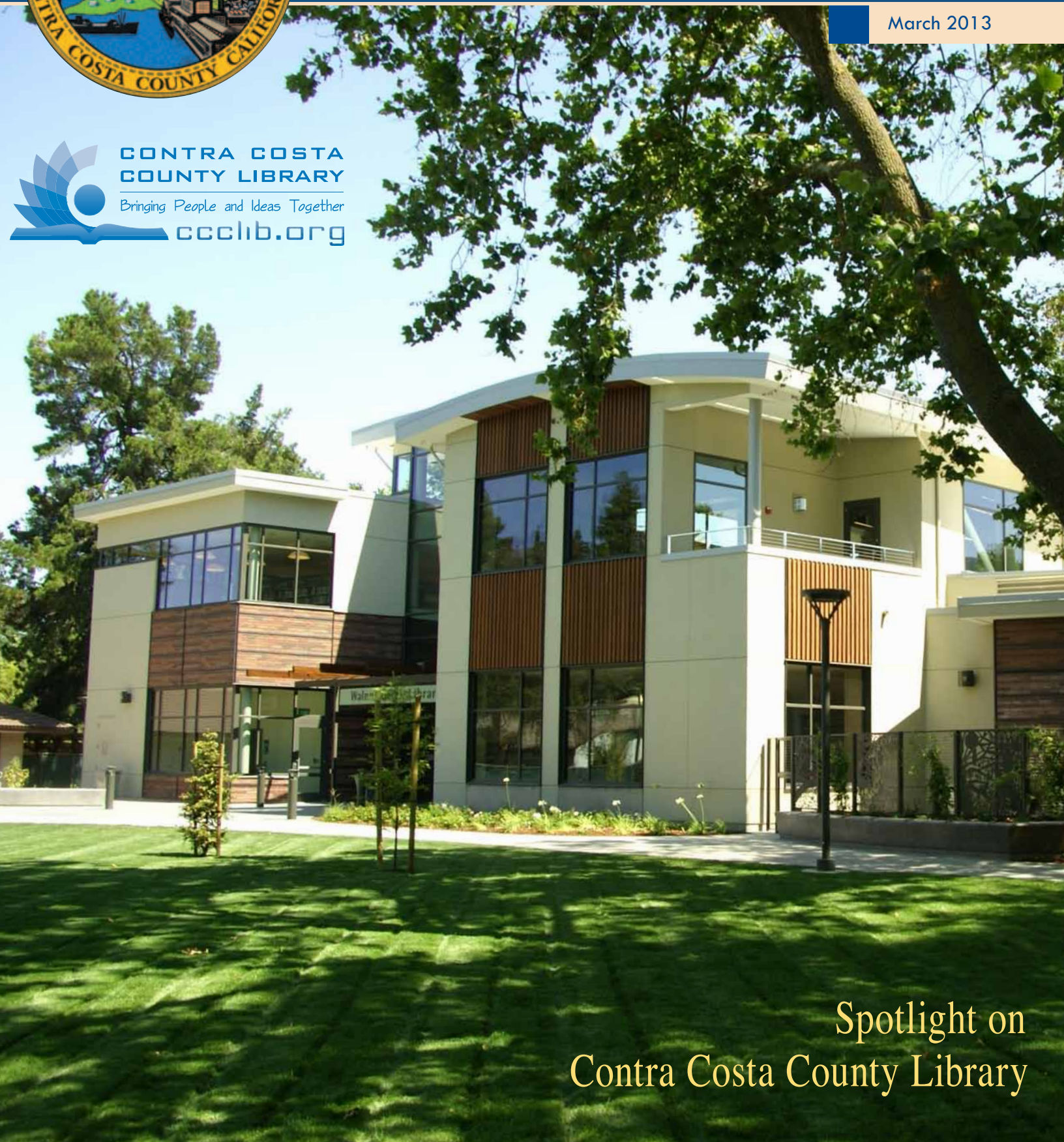
A Newsletter for Employees of Contra Costa County

March 2013

CONTRA COSTA  
COUNTY LIBRARY

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Spotlight on  
Contra Costa County Library



# Supervisor Federal Glover Welcoming 2013



*(Excerpts from Supervisor Glover's Jan. 8 speech when he was installed as the 2013 Chairman of the Board of Supervisors.)*

The last few years have been difficult for Contra Costa County and the next year will be no different. Actually, the next few years will remain challenging. Much of what we do – and what we can't do – depends upon segments of the economy, local, state and national, which are often beyond our control.

While there are signs that the economy is improving, through job creation, decreased unemployment and more construction underway, full recovery is still a few years down the line. In the meantime, we are learning to live within our means. We have no choice.

In this effort, we have made significant strides, thanks to the departments and county employees. The county has closed budget deficits that at one time exceeded \$100 million.

We have been able to reduce our Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability from \$2.6 billion down to \$960 million, with the aim to further reduce that liability to zero over the next few years.

For the first time in a long time - we have a balanced budget. Despite the funding shortfalls, we have been able to maintain vital services to the public. Of course, much of the credit for this goes to the collaboration of labor, county departments and the Board.

**Public Safety Realignment:** Four years ago, when I became Chair, one of the things I introduced was the formation of the Public Protection Committee. As it turned out, it has become a vital committee to air out timely issues affecting fire protection, our jails, courts and realignment, the transfer of low-level offenders in state prisons to county custody.

Contra Costa has been a leader on realignment. Other counties are watching what we do and how we involve the public in our decision-making process. It hasn't always been easy, but in the end, I believe we will have another model of reducing recidivism and getting inmates off the hopeless and sometimes never-ending cycle of committing crimes.

The county was not "lucky" to receive the \$20 million for realignment. We fought for it by developing a funding formula which was fair to Contra Costa. With the Governor's support through Proposition 30, funding for realignment is guaranteed. I've been fortunate to be on numerous state agencies to deal with this issue and to ensure that the county gets its fair share of state funds for realignment.

**Fire Protection:** In December, we heard hours of testimony regarding the closure of fire stations. Last November the voters

voted down Proposition Q which would have funded the status quo in fire protection. Since the public said no, the Board now faces the difficult task of closing stations. We will have to close at least 4 stations right away, and possibly more next year. But, we will do it with the public's safety in mind.

I will urge the Fire Chief to continue to develop and search for additional revenue in the form of grants to ensure that we maintain the levels of safety we have become accustomed to without endangering the firefighters themselves.

**Health Care:** As the State plans for the implementation of the Affordable Care Act – otherwise known as Obamacare – the County is also taking steps to prepare for the changeover.

- We have implemented our electronic Health Record system, ccLink®, providing an electronic record of patients' health;
- We are also being more proactive in reducing health disparities and prevention strategies by aggressively reaching out to the affected communities.

The Contra Costa Health Plan is expanding its membership and we are expanding our health clinics, redesigning our existing facilities and working with the nonprofit health clinics to better serve the health needs of our citizens.

**The Delta:** As you all know, Supervisor Mary Piepho has championed Delta issues on behalf of the County and will continue in that role. She will continue to speak out on the proposed tunnels or canals that will divert water from the Delta, necessary levee upgrades, flood protection and water quality for fish and for our drinking water.

The County will continue to seek partnerships and alliances with other Delta counties, environmentalists, fishing groups and the agencies such as Contra Costa Water District and the sanitary districts to have a louder and strong voice on Delta issues.

**Transportation:** I am on a number of regional transportation agencies including the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Contra Costa Transit Agency, and the East County coalition that found local funding for the widening of Highway 4 and the construction of eBART.

I plan to expand on that role as the county's representative, along with Amy Wirth, on the regional transportation agencies to see what we can do to start the planning for a wBART, which would extend tracks from Richmond to Hercules. We need to look seriously at ferries as another commuting alternative to cars and bring better coordination among the four bus agencies in our county.

**Economic Development:** With the demise of Redevelopment Agencies, the County has taken a more active role in economic development.

Last year, the Bay Point-Pittsburg Enterprise Zone was created.



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## Recommendations Please

County Clips is your employee newsletter. Please send us your comments, questions & suggestions.

You can contact us at (925) 313-1180 or email us at [christine.wampler@contracostatv.org](mailto:christine.wampler@contracostatv.org).

On Cover: Walnut Creek Library

## Incoming Message, Continued from page 2

That, along with Richmond's Enterprise Zone, will help stimulate businesses and employment in those areas and help strengthen the economy for the entire county.

The selection of the UC Richmond Field Station for a new campus of Lawrence-Berkeley National Lab is going to be a major contributor, not only to Richmond, but to the economies of Contra Costa and the Bay Area. It will be one of the top research facilities in the entire world and it will bring in students, faculty and researchers and their families to Contra Costa. The planning for the campus is underway. It expects to open its doors in 2018.

Oakley just got approved by the Public Utilities Commission to build an energy plant that will bring jobs and a multi-million dollar payroll to East County. The RadBack plant joins the other energy plants that have located in the Pittsburg-Antioch area producing clean energy for millions of homes and good paying jobs for the local economy. I plan to launch the Northshore Initiative this year, with planning already underway.

I want to bring together all the stakeholders on the northern shore of Contra Costa, from Richmond to Oakley, to find out if there are any common projects we can work on together. That includes the refineries, major industries such as Dow and USS-POSCO, the Port of Richmond and the budding Port of Pittsburg-Antioch, the cities, park districts and recreation officials.

- Pittsburg will begin building facilities to transfer oil from ships to storage tanks on shore.
- Richmond is upgrading its docking and oil transfer facilities.

I think if we act as a regional group, we can wield more power than if each of us tried to act alone. I'm not sure what the meeting of the minds will produce but it might include issues of dredging, improving our port facilities, recreational water access, attracting more industry or the need for ferries.

The Year Ahead: Looking to the year ahead - we are off to a good start. Our projected revenues will match our projected expenditures this year. Our OPEB liability will continue to be reduced. We might even have a small increase in fund balance.

We already have established a Capital Fund with initial funding of \$5 million to replace or update our aging infrastructure. We will continue to seek ways to find additional revenue for public safety and the delivery of health care.

As I said in the beginning: this will be a challenge. Many of the decisions we will make will not be popular with the public. But if we work together and we seek partnerships with community-based organizations, the cities and private enterprise, we can weather this storm.

I'm ready. The Board of Supervisors is ready. The question is: Is the public ready?



# SPOTLIGHT on Contra Costa County

## 2013 The Year of the Library!



The Contra Costa Library racked up an amazing array of awards in 2012 for its innovative services and programs, closing out the year with a coveted National Medal for Museum and Library Services. The Medal was presented to Librarian Barbara Flynn at a White House ceremony in November. Supervisor Mary N. Piepho, community representative Gladys Leeks and Library staff were also present at the ceremony.

How do you Top 2012?  
With a Celebration of Course!



*Top images: New Lafayette Library including the Tech Lab & childrens area.*

*Photos above, clockwise: New Brentwood Library; 100 Year Celebration with staff Corinne Kelly, Lea Stone, Karen Hansen-Smith, County Librarian Barbara Flynn, Ruth Boyer and Eileen Peifer; Library Commissioners Kathy Fuller, Martinez, and Greg Enholm, Supervisorial District 5; Crockett Library.*



The Board of Supervisors has proclaimed 2013 to be the Year of the Library in recognition of 100 years of success. A century ago, the Board of Supervisors established the Contra Costa Library on July 21, 1913. With Mrs. Alice G. Whitbeck at the helm as County Librarian, the first library branch opened in Walnut Creek on October 9 that same year.



# SPOTLIGHT on the Contra Costa County Libraries



Fast forward to February 2013, and a series of kickoff events have been held throughout the County at various branch locations, including Martinez, Walnut Creek and Pittsburg. Birthday parties continue into March in Lafayette, Brentwood and El Sobrante, with more to follow leading up to the big countywide event to be held on Sunday, July 21, at Pleasant Hill Park and Teen Center. Find the kickoff party details at libraries throughout the County in a special online guide created to help you navigate the many events marking the “Year of the Library.” You can check it out at: <http://guides.ccclib.org/100thbirthday>.



The Martinez Library hosted the first regional 100th Birthday celebration on Saturday, February 9, with Supervisors Federal D. Glover, Candace Andersen and Karen Mitchoff in attendance. Andrea Blachman, Director of the Martinez Museum, shared the history of the Library, from the efforts to establish a “free reading room” in the late 1880s to the community resource it is today.

*Photos top to bottom: Top) Board of Supervisors Chair, Federal Glover, is the Master of Ceremonies at the Martinez Library event. Middle) Board of Supervisors Chair, Federal Glover and Supervisor Karen Mitchoff enjoy the celebration. Bottom) Martinez Library staff left to right: Lea Stone, Adam Daniels, Sandy Poulsen, Sue Bennett and David Lynds.*



*Some photos by Greg Enholm, 5th District County Library Commissioner*

## Save the Date!

### July 21, 2013

Pleasant Hill Park, Noon – 5:00 p.m.

**Contra Costa County Library Turns 100!**



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## Got a Question? Ask a Librarian!

Contra Costa County Library's “LiveChat” feature on the home page of the County website continues to grow in popularity.

Last year, more than 8,000 people looking for answers they couldn't find online or by phone tapped a librarian's virtual shoulder by clicking on the “LiveChat” button. A snapshot of calls from the month of November 2012 shows some consistent trends. The vast majority of calls pertain to the following departments: Tax, Sheriff, Clerk-Recorder, Assessor, Animal Services, Employment and Human Services, Conservation and Development, and Human Resources. Those categories stay in the top ten throughout the year. And although the Courts split from the County many years ago, that point isn't clear to residents, who still seek Superior Court information from us online and by phone.



What can we do with these facts? In the coming weeks, departments will have an opportunity to find out what residents are asking the Library staff, and that information can help us enhance our own websites with the information people are seeking. You'll also find out how you can provide the Library's LiveChat staff with information to help arm them with the information that will better serve the public.

**Thanks to the Library for providing this very valuable service!**

# Outgoing Message from Supervisor Piepho



## *Remarks from outgoing chair Mary N. Piepho at the January 8, 2013, Board Reorganization Luncheon*

It has been an honor to work with all of you this past year as Chair of the Board.

While I know the primary role of Chair is to run the meetings, there is additional coordination, time and attention that come with the role. It is a lot of work, but more importantly, it is an

honor to serve in this capacity. I thank my colleagues for their confidence in me to carry out this responsibility.

I would like to take a moment to thank my family and friends for their continued support this past year and during my 8 years on the Board of Supervisors. I am up to the task with the support of my great team. I'd like to introduce my Team Leaders, my husband David and daughter Mariah. Many of you may remember Mariah; she is now fifteen and a sophomore at Liberty High School in Brentwood.

My key team members of my staff are: Chief of Staff Karen Basting, Deputy Chief of Staff Lea Castleberry, Field Representative Karyn Cornell, Field Representative Jennifer Quallick and Scheduler and Office Operations Alison Olsen. This team is the glue that binds Team Piepho together and they are all integral to the success of what I am able to accomplish on a daily basis.

And, I thank all of you here today. Your connection and involvement with County government is greatly appreciated, whether as taxpayers, employees, managers, business owners, fellow elected officials, and friends.

Most of you recognize that we have been through a lot as a Board over the last several years. This past year alone has been action packed with many huge issues and hurdles to get over, transitions and changes to get through, but we have pulled together and worked through them.

We lost some local icons in addition to Supervisor Uilkema, including former Sheriff Warren Rupf and California Highway Patrol Officer Kenyon Youngstrom, who died tragically in the line of duty on HWY 680 last September.

The year began with Supervisor Uilkema's illness and ultimate passing. The transition at this time last year was not easy, and her absence from the annual Reorganization Board Meeting and following luncheon was deeply felt.

We then welcomed Supervisor Candace Andersen to the Board when she was appropriately appointed by Governor Brown to fill the remainder of Supervisor Uilkema's term. Today, we welcome Supervisor Andersen as she is sworn in to her elected term as Supervisor for District II.

We have survived on-going budget challenges as a result of the great recession, significant state and federal budget cuts to local programs, three CAO's in 8 years (and we're happy with the one we have!), the 2010 Census driven redistricting process, and constant ongoing labor negotiations = concessions.

We faced labor negotiations in just about every Board meeting, with our County employees making significant sacrifices, and more likely in 2013 as well.

The Chevron tax assessment appeal has been a multi-year challenge with both ups and downs for the county. I dare say that everyone involved or affected by these appeals will be happy when we can finally resolve the issues at hand and move forward.

We continue to learn how to do more with less, and do it more efficiently.

## **We had many highlights over the last year.**

We held multiple special hearings for the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary in Walnut Creek. This is a project with significant local impact that the Board took serious consideration to address the needs and concerns of local neighbors.

The state's redevelopment agency dissolutions and appointments for the oversight boards and successor agencies have been a tremendous challenge with significant economic impacts to local cities, special districts and the county.

Prison realignment is ongoing and we fought to secure revenue to support our local law enforcement and judicial departments. Together we need to build a plan that meets community safety needs while addressing recidivism and educational opportunities where possible.

The hospital's sustainability study gave us good information on how we can better provide patient care to our CCHP members and clients.

As Health Care Reform is implemented, we must be in a leadership position to take advantage of new revenue opportunities and continue to build a financially sustainable health care system.

I'm honored to support the Contra Costa CAN campaign, and work with the East Bay Economic Development Alliance, Contra Costa Council, EC2 and other organizations to stimulate small businesses and economic development in the County and our region.

We grow business in Contra Costa County, from small to large. As leaders, we need to focus on policy development that encourages and supports our local economic growth. As business grows, our residents are able to gain employment and move our economy forward.

I'm proud to again congratulate our Contra Costa library system for their receipt of a national award, one of only five nationwide, for local innovation in library programs and outreach to those unable to read. A significant accomplishment and one we can all be proud of.

The Board saw two failed parcel tax elections, both the Contra Costa Fire Protection and the Clean Water fee. The negative outcome of these elections will face city and county residents alike as we struggle to meet the demands for service, compliance with state laws and reduced revenues.

One of my greatest challenges is representing Contra Costa County's interests relative to the Delta and ongoing policy changes as they relate to water management in California. I will continue to focus on invasive weeds and other invasive species in the Delta; protection from the Bay Delta Conservation Plan; and the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan. Contra Costa has a great staff and legislative advocacy team working on this extremely important issue.



As a county commuter, I'm proud of our transportation accomplishments the last number of years, but we have more work to do. Even with improved safety measures and a concrete barrier, fatalities on Vasco Road and other East County roadways are on the rise and we need to stay vigilant on safety enhancements and driver awareness.

Highway 4 widening and E-BART to Antioch are tremendous leaps forward. We also need to focus on widening the Highway 4 Bypass and its local interchanges and the State Route 239 "Tri-Link" planning study.

I'm proud to have fought to implement a new employee deferred compensation loan program, providing employees access to their funds in cases of emergency or extreme need.

I'm pleased to support our local East County Veteran community with a new Veterans Services satellite office opened on Thursdays in my Brentwood District office. Thank you to our Veterans Service Officer Nathan Johnson for his great work serving our Veteran community.

**My goals and objectives for this upcoming term will continue to include:**

- Supporting and preserving agriculture and the Delta;
- Continued advocacy for essential services for Veterans and Seniors;
- Fiscal responsibility, even under the pressures of our state budget, the federal "fiscal cliff" and the national economy;
- Preserving and protecting Public Safety; and
- Working hard to represent the unincorporated communities of District III – the County is their local government

Leadership is not always easy, but it is vital to achieving our goals. I appreciate the efforts of my colleagues, their remarkable staff, that of our County Administrator David Twa and his team along with Ted Cwiek and his staff in Human Resources.

A big thank you to our County Clerk Recorder, Steve Weir, who is leaving us this year to enjoy his retirement. And while we will never be able to replace our Clerk Recorder and Elections Officer Steve Weir, we will work hard to find a candidate who can come close. We will miss you and wish you all the best, Steve.

I also want to thank our County Department Heads for their leadership and valuable and thoughtful input during these tough times, and the motivation they supply to our employees.

Particularly important are the more than 8,000 County employees who serve our citizens each and every day. Their contributions and sacrifices are remarkable. I know we have more challenging days ahead. But together, we have come a long way.

I pledge to continue to protect the sacrifices of our employees who all do an amazing job, especially now, having to do more with dwindling resources - we have all paid the price and all sacrificed, and I will do all I can to protect what has been accomplished.

I pledge to you, we will not go backwards. While we may disagree with the forward direction, the driving force must be ongoing financial sustainability. I promise to serve with integrity and a personal commitment to both those who fund and those who receive the many services the county provides.

I continue to look forward to working with all of you as we kick off this next year, and wish all the best in 2013 for Supervisor Glover as incoming Chair and Supervisor Mitchoff as Vice Chair.

Thank you!



# SAVE THE DATE!

## 20th ANNUAL CESAR E. CHAVEZ COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATION

Tuesday, April 9, 2013  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Board of Supervisors Chambers  
651 Pine Street, Room 107, Martinez

For more information, please contact  
Steve Weir, County Clerk-Recorder, at

**(925) 335-7899**



## Urban Shield

Members of Health Services' Hazardous Materials Division took home the top prize after completing a battery of training exercises at the Urban Shield competition last fall. Urban Shield is a one-day full-scale exercise and competition to assess local HazMat teams in responding to terrorist attacks and disasters. It was the second year our HazMat Division—the only one based in a health department—participated. Last year, the team placed third out of 12 competing teams. Urban Shield provides an objective assessment of the agencies' capabilities to identify strengths and areas for improvement. While promoted as a competition, the real benefit to our HazMat Division is the opportunity to bolster preparedness and validate the benefits of such capabilities to the communities we serve. Assistant HazMat Director Steve Morioka said taking first place is a pretty prestigious honor and says something about the quality of our staff. Congratulations to Paul Andrews, Maria Duazo, Matt Kaufmann and Trisha Asuncion!



Winning Urban Shield Team poses with Supervisor Mary N. Piepho and Health Services Director Dr. William Walker.

## Flu Vaccinations for County Employees

Health care workers throughout Contra Costa County—not just our health system—are following new rules to prevent their patients from contracting the flu. County Health Officer and Health Services Director, Dr. William Walker, issued an order requiring people to get flu vaccine if they work in licensed health care settings and have direct patient contact or work in patient care areas. Those who could not get flu vaccine must wear masks to prevent flu from spreading. Most years, flu activity peaks in January. That means we can expect several more months of flu viruses spreading in our community. If you haven't received flu vaccine, contact your health care provider or visit [www.cchealth.org/flu](http://www.cchealth.org/flu) to find out where you can get vaccinated.



## Free Wi-Fi at CCRMC

Patients and visitors can now get free Wi-Fi access at Contra Costa Health Services' Regional Medical Center in Martinez by connecting to a newly created guest network. Members of the public can connect to the guest network by entering a password and agreeing to the terms of service. The password, which will change every month and convey different health messages, can be obtained from promotional flyers that will be posted around the hospital. The guest network will be available only in certain areas of the hospital: the first- and second-floor lobbies, the third-floor lobby of the Emergency Department, the cafeteria, the Infusion Center and waiting areas in the Martinez Health Center.





## First Hope

There's new hope for young people beginning to show the early signs of psychosis in Contra Costa County. The Behavioral Health Services Division in our Health Services Department recently launched First Hope: Identification and Intervention to Prevent Psychosis, a Mental Health Services Act-funded Prevention & Early Intervention treatment program that provides confidential assessment and assistance to individuals between the ages of 12 and 25 who are at clinical high risk for psychosis.

Program Supervisor Mary Roy says it is critical to reach this age group because it is typically before the onset of psychosis and the person may begin to experience mild, yet serious symptoms. First Hope provides early identification of symptoms, family-aided assertive community treatment, educational multifamily groups, supported education and employment, and medication if needed. Evidence indicates that early treatment can dramatically decrease the incidence of psychosis and in many cases, prevent the development of a major mental illness. To find out more about First Hope, visit [www.cchealth.org/firsthope/](http://www.cchealth.org/firsthope/) or contact Mary Roy at 925-957-5169. For a consultation or referral, call 925-681-4450.



*Above: A welcoming atmosphere seen in a newly transformed Assessment Room & First Hope staff*

## QualityNet 2012



Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and Health Centers is receiving national recognition for its efforts to involve patients, family members and partners in improvement efforts. Patient Partner Amanda Espinoza joined CCRMC & Health Centers CEO Anna Roth at the QualityNet 2012 conference hosted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and other groups in December in Baltimore. Espinoza and Roth were asked to attend to share their perspective on patient involvement at the event, which brings together U.S. health care leaders, government officials, patients, advocates, and researchers to discuss quality improvement strategies and innovative ways to improve patient safety. Patient Family Member Partner Teresa Pasquini also was invited to present on CCRMC & Health Centers work at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care in December in Florida. CCRMC & Health Centers was recently featured in an article in Modern Healthcare magazine (<http://ow.ly/fMDtk>). For more information on patient and family involvement at CCRMC & Health Centers, please visit website: <http://cchealth.org/medicalcenter/culture/partners.php>

# Contra Costa Health Services News

## *Automated External Defibrillators (AED)*

Contra Costa health officials are urging owners of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), in the county to register the lifesaving devices and mark them available for public access to increase the odds that they are used during cardiac arrest. Emergency dispatchers are automatically notified when a registered AED is located at the same address as a 9-1-1 call for cardiac arrest. If owners additionally mark their device as public during the registration process, a new information system called AED Link will notify volunteer responders when the lifesaving device is within 1,200 feet of a reported sudden cardiac arrest victim. EMS Medical Director Dr. Barger said the department is only asking businesses and organizations like churches, schools and public facilities to register their devices as public, not individuals who have been prescribed or purchased AEDs for home use.

There are about 800 known AEDs in Contra Costa County, according to the Emergency Medical Services Division, yet Pre-Hospital Care Coordinator Pam Dodson says few are marked public and estimates at least 200 more are out there and not registered. She said the devices are becoming common because they increase survival rates of sudden cardiac arrest and are easy to use.

"It is incredibly tragic to hear about cardiac arrest victims who did not receive the help of an AED when one was nearby—sometimes in the same building," Dodson said. "During a 9-1-1 call, AED Link instantly identifies the location of all registered AEDs near a reported sudden cardiac arrest victim. It then automatically calls or texts volunteer responders requesting that they bring their AED to the victim hopefully in time to save their life."



*Above: EMS Director Patricia Frost, left, listens as Pre-Hospital Care Coordinator Pam Dodson presents to the Board of Supervisors.*



The health department is urging AED owners to take a moment in February for American Heart Month to check if their AED is registered and to mark their devices for public use. EMS Medical Director Dr. Joseph Barger said the process to register an AED takes five minutes and has many benefits. To register an AED or to see if you have registered your AED, visit [www.cchealth.org/ems/aed.php](http://www.cchealth.org/ems/aed.php) or call 925-313-9547.

"When you register your AED, you get free maintenance reminders, recall notifications and much more to ensure your device will work as it should when you need it most," Dr. Barger said. EMS made a presentation to the County Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting on February 5 for American Heart Month.

A person's chance of surviving cardiac arrest diminishes by 10% for each passing minute without care, Dodson said.

"The most important variable impacting survival of sudden cardiac arrest is the time to first shock," she said. "Involving the community in our response through the use of bystander CPR and public access AEDs we can greatly shorten the time to first shock."

To find out more about Emergency Medical Services in Contra Costa, visit [www.cchealth.org/ems/](http://www.cchealth.org/ems/)



# County Employees Recognized for Saving Man's Life

The stars were aligned on September 16, 2012. Jim Engelhardt suffered cardiac arrest while packing up his booth at the Lafayette Art & Wine Festival. A citizen notified Lafayette Police Community Service Officer Cathy Surges-Moscato and Sgt. Dan Nugent. When they arrived, two citizens were performing CPR on Engelhardt. Sgt. Nugent called for “code 3” fire and ambulance. Lafayette Police Officers Jacqui Dennison and Debra Williams took over performing CPR while Cathy went to get the Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Officer Dennison applied the AED to Engelhardt. It was activated several times until Engelhardt was revived. Firefighters then took over Engelhardt’s care. AMR transported him to the hospital. A doctor at Kaiser told Engelhardt that he was very lucky, having a less than 10% chance of survival. His main artery had 98% blockage.

“The rapid response made the difference in this man’s survival,” said Contra Costa Health Services Prehospital Care Coordinator Pam Dodson. “For every minute a victim of sudden cardiac arrest is down without CPR and defibrillation their chance of survival decreases by ten percent.” Dodson said in Engelhardt’s case all of the links in the ‘chain of survival’ were in place – early access, early CPR, early defibrillation, effective advanced life support and integrated post cardiac arrest care.



*Left to right, Contra Costa County Office of the Sheriff Captain Mark Williams, Lafayette Police Officer Debra Williams, survivor Jim Engelhardt, Officer Jacqui Dennison, Community Service Officer Cathy Surges-Moscato and Police Chief Eric Christensen.*



*Police, fire and ambulance personnel who were recognized at the Lafayette City Council meeting. They were part of the ‘chain of survival’ that helped save the life of Jim Engelhardt.*

The first responders who cared for Engelhardt were thanked and honored for their life-saving services at a recent Lafayette City Council meeting. Besides the Lafayette Police, Contra Costa Fire (Captain Jeff Beaty, Captain Gary Hern, Geoffrey Nelsen, Nathan Smith, Jared Palant and Jesse Ingran) and AMR (Ursula Gomez and Ryan Caluya) were also recognized for their efforts.

“As a former police officer and firefighter for 29 years, I had a few opportunities to administer CPR to individuals, and fortunately saving a couple of individuals. I know we in the profession usually say we were “just doing our job” when we are fortunate to save a life. Well, after having been on both sides of the coin, I know how proud we should really be. I want to thank you and your department, your training section, and everyone else responsible for my being here today,” said Jim Engelhardt. “I’m doing great.”

At the city council meeting, Captain Mark Williams, Commander of the Office of the Sheriff Patrol Division, presented commendations from Sheriff David O. Livingston to the Lafayette Police staff who were involved. “Your extraordinary life-saving actions comport to the highest standards of this Office and are exceedingly commendable. Furthermore, your actions exemplify the mission statement and core values of this Office: Honor, Courage, Commitment, Leadership and Teamwork,” said Sheriff David O. Livingston. “The actions by you and all of those involved undoubtedly saved the victim’s life.”



# Thanks a Million!

## County Ups the Ante in Annual FOOD BANK CHARITY DRIVE

With the 2013 County Cares Holiday Food Fight behind us, those who contributed deserve a round of applause. In the ten years of the annual fundraiser, County employees have now raised more than \$1 million dollars for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano. More than \$100,000 was donated by Contra Costa employees in this year's effort, despite the still difficult economy and the overall decrease in the number of county staff.

The challenge between Solano and Contra Costa counties has a long-standing tradition of helping. Solano County re-claimed the "Big Apple" trophy this year, with per capita fundraising a bit higher than Contra Costa's. The "Little Apple" was presented to Supervisor Federal Glover on Tuesday, February 12, for his office pulling in the highest-per-employee giving from the Board of Supervisors. Departmental honors went to the Sheriff's Office, the Public Works Department, the District Attorney's Office, County Counsel's Office and the Agriculture Department.

Special thanks also go to the Food Fight's tireless coordinator, Kate Sibley, Executive Assistant for Contra Costa County's Local Agency Formation Commission. Kate gives countless hours and provides boundless inspiration to the event each holiday season. The big winners of course are the residents of our two counties who need extra help getting food on the table. More than 258,000 meals will be provided this year because of the generosity of our employees.



## Helping the Community

### 2012 Combined Charities Campaign

Nearly 600 County employees stepped up last fall to contribute in the annual Combined Charities Campaign. Literally hundreds of worthy causes will be aided by your donations this year; a total of \$162,075 was pledged during the campaign. The County Assessor's Office was the 2012 Chair of the charity drive, and staff who worked on the campaign wanted to thank all of the Department Coordinators for their efforts, as well as the 596 people who pledged.

Departments with the highest donation totals in order are Health Services, Employment and Human Services, Public works, Child Support Services and County Counsel. The top five departments in terms of "per employee" donations are the County Administrator's Office, Child support Services, County Counsel, Veterans Services and the Public Defender's Office.

Thank you to all who supported the many worthwhile causes benefiting from the 2012 drive; look for details on how you can participate in 2013 later this year.

### 2012 Contra Costa County Combined Charities Campaign

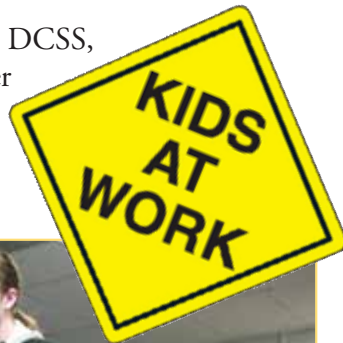




# Kids to Work Day at the Department of Child Support Services

On August 14, 2012 the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) welcomed children of our staff for the annual Kids to Work day event. Originally, the event was held in conjunction with the National Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day© in April. The DCSS event was moved to the summer three years ago to avoid conflicts with school. The four hour event hosts an average of fifty boys and girls who are ages of 8 to 18. The day always starts with introductions and asking the kids what their parents do at work. The kids respond with statements like “my mom talks on the phone” or “my dad goes to court” and my personal favorite “my mom is a boss.” The event is designed to help the kids understand why we talk on the phone; go to court; or what it means to be boss. Some of the highlights of the Kids to Work Day are office tours, art projects, pictures taken with parents and speakers. This year staff member Heidi Carter, Child Support Specialist III, spoke on the department functions and how child support helps families. Heidi shared with the kids how much money we collect annually for the children of Contra Costa County, which is over \$60 million dollars annually.

Outreach is an important goal for DCSS, which is often confused with other county agencies that have similar names. During this event, we try and create a learning opportunity



*DCSS staff and Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians Tribal TANF Program staff.*



for the children so that they can share what their parents do and are able to articulate the various roles and functions. As with many county agencies we have county partners who assist us in our daily work and we were very pleased to have two of these partners present interactive sessions to our kids. Staff from the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program shared how their program benefits the Native American People in Contra Costa County. In addition to learning about the Tribal TANF program the children learned a new game called Warrior, Bear and Maiden. The game is played like rock-paper-scissors and has the following hierarchy: Bear takes Maiden, Warrior takes Bear and Maiden takes Warrior. Following the tribal presentation, our Superior Court Commissioner Josanna Berkow held court. Commissioner Berkow assigned various roles to the children from custodial parent to bailiff. This presentation provided the children an understanding of what going to court means to child support staff and parents.

Commissioner Berkow had the kids act out a day in Department 52 Family Court. Commissioner Berkow provided valuable instruction on appropriate court behavior (several students learned that texting is not allowed in court) and how child support is determined. Commissioner Berkow retired November 30, 2012, and will be missed by the Child Support Staff and children. The presentations by our partners provided a successful Kids to Work Day for the DCSS kids. All the kids came away with the ability to answer the question what does your mom or dad do?



*Commissioner Berkow, Melissa Crabtree, Josh Carter and Isabella Scotts participate in a Mock Trial.*



# Standing on the Shoulders of Giants

## CONTRA COSTA COUNTY Hosts 35th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration

The sounds of the Los Medanos College Gospel Choir filled the Board of Supervisors Chambers on January 22, 2013, with the annual tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Board of Supervisors Chair Federal Glover served as Master of Ceremonies, and introduced keynote speaker Dr. Helen Benjamin, who is Chancellor of the Contra Costa Community College District. Dr. Benjamin spoke just a day after attending the Presidential Inauguration in Washington D.C.

Dr. Benjamin's address was followed by presentations of the 2013 Humanitarian and Student Humanitarian of the Year awards. Las Lomas High School senior Casey Leonard stirred up the crowd with his acceptance of the Student Humanitarian honor, and showed once again that our region is home to great future leaders.

*Above: Animal Services Director, Glenn Howell, introduces the Los Medanos College Gospel Choir (Under the direction of Silvester C. Henderson),*

*Keynote Speaker, Dr. Helen Benjamin – Chancellor Contra Costa Community College District,*

*Casey Leonard, 2013 Student Humanitarian of the Year addresses the audience,*

*Board of Supervisors & Human Resources Director listen to Casey Leonard's speech.*





# 35th Annual Contra Costa County Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Continued from Page 14



Doug Stewart  
graciously accepted  
the Humanitarian  
of the Year award for  
his tireless advocacy  
on behalf of the  
homeless through his Central County Homeless Outreach Team.

Thanks go to the MLK Day organizing committee, led by Animal Services Director Glenn Howell, and to the many volunteers who made the event a success. In addition, the committee would like to thank the Public Works Department, the Animal Services Department, the Employment and Human Services Department (Community Service Head Start Central Kitchen), the Martinez Police Department, the Human Resources Department, Contra Costa Television (CCTV) and the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

*Above: MLK Committee Members, Board of Supervisor Members, 2013 Humanitarian and Student Humanitarian, and the County Administrator pose for a group photo.*

*Board of Supervisors Chair Federal Glover presents the 2013 Humanitarian of the Year Award to Doug Stewart.*

*Saxophone player and Drummer from the Los Medanos College Gospel Choir*





# Veterans Day 2012



The sound of bagpipes echoed through the Board of Supervisors Chambers on Tuesday, November 13th, as the County recognized the contributions of area veterans in a special ceremony. The Color Guard from the Concord Marines presented the colors, accompanied by Vietnam War Veteran Richard O'Connor singing the National Anthem.

County Veterans Service Officer, Nathan Johnson, paid tribute to the veterans in the audience who spanned five generations of combat service, from World War II through the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. He also acknowledged the service of those who have protected our country during peacetime, and those who are currently deployed throughout the world. Johnson expressed his appreciation for the wide range of veteran's service organizations represented at the ceremony, thanking

them for the wide net of support they provide to vets and their families.

Guest speaker 1st Sgt. Simon Sandoval gave a gripping account of his own experiences, beginning with his enlistment at a Marine recruiting office in San Diego, through his training years and beyond. Sandoval shared deeply personal accounts of his service, alternating between compelling stories from his multiple combat tours that hushed the Chambers and insider tales that brought rounds of laughter. He also raised the changing issues today's returning veterans face with modern warfare. Sandoval is a highly decorated combat veteran currently serving at the Concord Marine Reserve Center.

Troop support group "Warriors' Watch Riders" was honored with a special proclamation from the Board of Supervisors; Warriors' Watch Riders is the umbrella organization for the

nationwide coalition of local branches that provide motorcycle escorts for military units returning from war, units deploying, or individual men and women coming home or leaving for duty. Local resident Bryan Welden was also recognized for his efforts on behalf of the Diablo Valley Flag Brigade and the several hundred Operation Welcome Home events that he has coordinated over the past seven years in our communities.

Those in attendance wore yellow ribbons created for the event by local Blue Star Moms, and were treated to the talents of Vietnam veteran Chuck Jamison playing the bagpipes to close out the ceremony.



*Below: Warriors' Watch Riders arrive on their motorcycles.*

*Bottom: Vietnam veteran Chuck Jamison playing the bagpipes.*



*Top: Veterans salute the colors as presented by the Concord Marines Color Guard. Middle: Keynote Speaker, 1st Sgt. Simon Sandoval, addresses the audience. Bottom: County Veterans Service Officer, Nathan Johnson, recognized veterans in the audience.*



# Simple Steps Help to Avoid Vector Problems Later in the Year

## Five Actions To Take Now

With below average temperatures for the first several days of 2013, it's easy to forget about the pitfalls of warmer weather -namely the disease-transmitting insects and animals that are prevalent in spring and summer. But now is in fact the time to avoid these wintertime occurrences that can create spring and summer problems.

### 1. Producing Mosquitoes on Patio & Grill Covers

Tarps and covers for patio furniture, grills, wood piles, and other outdoor items that you are trying to protect from the elements can sag, allowing water to accumulate. Mosquitoes only need two tablespoons of water to lay up to 400 eggs at a time, so the divots that form and collect rain water are prime places for mosquito production. Tightening these covers to remove places where water can accumulate prevents mosquitoes. Tarps and covers left untouched until spring can produce the mosquitoes that transmit West Nile Virus, but even in winter, these small supplies of water can produce the mosquitoes that transmit Canine Heartworm Disease.



### 2. Allowing Mosquitoes to flourish in House Gutters

Check house gutters regularly during the rainy season to remove branches, leaves, dirt and other debris that have landed in them during windy winter weather. The debris can stop rain water from draining and create an efficient location for mosquito production because the leaves and branches not only create a supply of standing water, they also provide nutrients in the water that help the mosquitoes thrive. Because mosquitoes can lay up to 400 eggs at a time, tens of thousands of mosquitoes can come from the gutters of just one house.

### 3. Producing Mosquitoes in Storm Drains

After you get down off the ladder, check-out the curbside gutters in front of your home. Sweeping debris out of the way will also help prevent mosquito production in storm drains. Leaves and other debris that often collect on or near these street level openings in the winter can fall into the catch basins and become an obstacle that prevents water from draining. The water that sits underground is a primary production location for one of Contra Costa County's West Nile virus mosquitoes. In 2012, storm drains were a major source of mosquitoes across the county.

### 4. Giving Yellowjackets a Winter Home

Yellowjackets are not only a problem during the picnic season. They are capable of surviving year-round. In 2012, the Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control

District responded to requests for yellowjacket inspections from February through December, and already in 2013, the District has received the first inspection request of the year. Yellowjackets

will make their homes underground in abandoned rodent holes, in spaces between railroad ties and masonry, and firewood piles. Repairing masonry, regularly rotating firewood and storing wood logs at least 18 inches above ground will reduce the chance yellowjackets will use the wood pile or exterior brick wall for a winter home.

### 5. Promoting the Rat and Mouse Population in Overgrown Vegetation

Elevating the wood pile also prevents rats and mice from making a winter home amidst the logs. But they will look to overgrown vegetation as well as a place to survive the winter and expand their population. By trimming the diameter and removing enough of the base of shrubs and other foliage to allow sun to shine through, the vegetation will become less attractive to rats and mice. Taking these steps is important because rats and mice can reproduce every three weeks or so. If you provide them with ample winter shelter, you'll have a sizable rat and mouse population by the spring.

Avoiding these five common winter occurrences will go a long way toward welcoming spring with a reduced risk of mosquitoes, yellowjackets, rats, and mice - and the diseases and discomfort each vector can transmit to people.



# Simple Steps Help to Avoid Vector Problems Later in the Year

## How to Prevent the Skunk Mating Dance in Your Yard & Reduce the Risk of Rabies



Winter is the mating season for skunks. Males seek out the females who then burrow a den in which to give birth. When that den is located on private property, including under a house, deck, or shed, the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District can provide a free inspection and advice on how to reduce the risk of skunks because they are one of the main **transmitters of rabies in California**. Because of the prevalence of skunks this time of the year, many residents are asking questions about skunk activity and prevention. CCMVCD's Rabies Reduction Team has the answers on how to reduce this public health risk.

### Something is digging up my lawn. What is it?

It's possible the culprit is a skunk that has found grubs in the yard. Grubs are a common food source for skunks. A lawn specialist can suggest the proper time and method for treating the yard to prevent grubs. And once the grubs are gone, the skunk may no longer be attracted to the lawn.

### Every time I go in my backyard, I smell a skunk. What should I do?

The standard skunk odor can be smelled up to a quarter mile away from the site of the skunk spray, so a skunk may or may not be nearby. However, if the skunk smell is stronger than usual and has taken on a musk-like characteristic to the odor, it's possible the skunk is close by. The next step would be for the resident to closely observe the yard, particularly after dark, to see if a skunk has taken up residence. If a skunk is coming and going from the same location on a property including under your home, shed, or deck, then the resident should contact the **Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District** to request a **free public health inspection**. If our state-certified inspector confirms the existence of skunk habitat, the District can work with the resident to remove the skunk under the terms of the District's Rabies Risk Reduction Program.

### Once the District sets up a trap, how long will it remain on my property?

The resident should monitor the trap in accordance with the directions provided by the District. As long as the trap continues to catch skunks, the trap will remain on the property. This can happen if multiple females are nesting together, or if one mother has not yet sent her young skunks from the nest. If the trap remains empty for up to 10 days, a District employee will remove the trap.

### Will my pet get rabies if it is sprayed by a skunk?

There is no scientific evidence that skunks can transmit rabies through its spray. Rabies is most commonly **transmitted** through the bite of an infected animal.

### How do I know if a skunk is no longer under my home?

If the resident has access to the entry point where the skunk has burrowed, wedge a ball of newspaper into the opening and then observe it. If the newspaper becomes dislodged, then something is still accessing the hole. Another way to monitor a location for skunk activity is to sprinkle flour in front of the opening, then note if there are tracks headed out of the hole or into the hole. This method is only effective if the weather is dry and the flour does not get wet.

### What can I do to remove skunk odor from my dog or my house?

For a pet, please follow the directions in the **District's Skunks Prevention and Control** literature.

For a home, the District recommends opening windows to allow air to flow through as well as simmering Rosemary. However, if the skunk or skunks have been living directly under the home, it may be necessary to call a private pest control operator who can provide a sanitation service to neutralize the odor.

### What do you do once you trap the skunk? Do you relocate it in open space?

State Fish and Wildlife Codes\* prohibit the relocation of skunks. The District euthanizes the skunks as humanely as possible to reduce the risk of rabies in Contra Costa County.

\*Sections 2118, 4004, 4005, 4150, California Fish and Wildlife Code; and Section 671, Title 14, California Code of Regulations

The Contra Costa Mosquito & Vector Control District has been protecting public health since 1927! Environmentally sound techniques, reliable and efficient services, as well as programs to combat emerging disease while preserving and/or enhancing the environment have been critical elements in the District's success for more than 85 years. An important part of the District's Integrated Pest Management program is educating the citizens of Contra Costa County on the diseases carried by the insects and animals of the county and how to prevent them. For more information, visit the District's award-winning website, [www.ContraCostaMosquito.com](http://www.ContraCostaMosquito.com).



# County Employee Service Awards with 20+ Years of Service\*

Aniversary Dates July - December 2012

## Animal Services

Ramirez, Diane N 25 Years

## Child Support Services

Perkins, Monica 25 Years

Hunt, Patricia A 25 Years

## Conservation and Development

Stein, Cynthia J 25 Years

## County Administration/CCTV

Verdugo, Christopher 20 Years

## District Attorney's Office

Jewett III, Harold W 30 Years

Martinez, Freddie L 30 Years

Georgiou-Chilimidos, N 25 Years

Kensok, Thomas J 25 Years

Mac Master, Douglass 25 Years

Yamaguchi, Jon F 25 Years

## Employment & Human Services

Linscheid, Kathy 35 Years

Merk, Linda M 35 Years

Miller, Lea M 35 Years

Spears, Catherine 35 Years

Alston, Veronica L 30 Years

Cabral, Karli A 30 Years

Lockwood, Chase M 30 Years

Smith, Melanie S 30 Years

Bishop, Peggy J 25 Years

Chevalier, Yvonne A 25 Years

Gaul, Lorraine K 25 Years

Haynes, Roberta L 25 Years

Mendoza, Samuel 25 Years

Powell, Dorothy J 25 Years

Van, Hoa 25 Years

Williams, Ivan 25 Years

Descalzo, Janis C 20 Years

Hayes, Angela M 20 Years

Obioma, MacColumbia U 20 Years

Sonico, Herma 20 Years

Uehisa, Lee 20 Years

## Health Services Department

Kothe, Jerry L 40 Years

Alford, Marilyn C 35 Years

Law, Kim D 35 Years

Lestage, Lily 35 Years

Neuman, Raymond 35 Years

Dillon, Claudia L 30 Years

Heinen, Katherine 30 Years

Jackson, Curtis C 30 Years

Karki, Adrienne L 30 Years

McFalone, Sally V 30 Years

Sacauskas, Leo J 30 Years

Ashbrook, Cynthia A 25 Years

Chew, Beth A 25 Years

Cook-Yoell, Cynthia L 25 Years

Diamond, Jan 25 Years

Elizarraraz, Sylvia 25 Years

Gonzales, Irmina A 25 Years

Guest, Susan C 25 Years

Gutierrez, Tanya 25 Years

Hearst, David P 25 Years

Keane, Patricia M 25 Years

Lejanon, Minda V 25 Years

Leynes, Mila P 25 Years

Mbanugo, Ogo S 25 Years

Moskovitz, Sigmund 25 Years

Pedeglorio, Dominador A 25 Years

Puruganan, Mary 25 Years

Riley, May A 25 Years

Saffier, Kenneth A 25 Years

Servantes-Huie, Marie C 25 Years

Stanton, Marlene Uri 25 Years

Vincent, Susan J 25 Years

Wallace, Vern L 25 Years

Aguilar, Rebecca S 20 Years

Bunce-Houston, Marianne R 20 Years

Clark, Gail J 20 Years

Conner, Susan C 20 Years

Ewing, Margaret S 20 Years

Hudson, Katherine 20 Years

Lively, Daniel M 20 Years

Maguire, Jacqueline C 20 Years

Moore, Juliette K 20 Years

Mozzetti, John A 20 Years

Puell, Michael 20 Years

Sutfin, Rosemarie E 20 Years

Wadle, Dawn M 20 Years

## Law Library

Little, Naomi A 30 Years

## Library

Bartlett, Carol A 40 Years

Kroll, Andrea U 25 Years

O Dea, Louise F 25 Years

## Probation Department

Pastor, Valerie C 35 Years

Mersch, Ann M 25 Years

Payton, Tama 25 Years

## Public Defender

Barker, Elizabeth 20 Years

Berkowitz, Breese 20 Years

Kelly, Michael 20 Years

## Public Works/General Services

Hubbard, Evan A 30 Years

Pina-Sandoval, Carmen S 30 Years

Awenius, Richard R 25 Years

Bartlow, Eric N 25 Years

Brown, Timothy A 25 Years

Carlson, Michael J 25 Years

Kelly, Kenneth R 25 Years

Klier, Wayne C 25 Years

Halle, Mary D 20 Years

Smith, Craig S 20 Years

## Sheriff-Coroner's Office

Pendleton, Jane 30 Years

Warne, Stephen M 25 Years

Ray, Vivian L 20 Years

\*Information as reported to County Clips by Human Resources

# County Retirements with 20+ Years of Service

From July - December, 2012 \*

## Clerk-Recorder's Office

Tina Bush	28
Darlene Marlow	23+

## Contra Costa County Fire District

James Roy	32
Paul Miller	27
Jon Wilmot	27
Roger Rybicki	26
Mark Gloistein	24
Jeffrey Peterson	24
Alfred Brondolo	22
Dena Stephens	22

## Employment & Human Services

John Cardenas	41
Margaret Stephens	40
Lea Miller	35
Linda Merkt	35
Charlene Begley	33
Diana Partain	30
Dorothy Powell	27
Judith Johnson	27

## EHSD Continued

Lois Rutten	27
Lucy Stone	27
Stefanie Thomas	26
Norman Florez	25
Esmeralda Okendo	24
Shirley Foster	24
Eunice Sirmons	24
Kim Derryberry	23
Pamela Poggensee	23
Patricia Rose	23
Amy Mitchell	22
Gloria Pedroza	22
Elizabeth Schild	22
Jerry Ponce	22
Cindy Whitford	22
Cynthia Willis	22
Robin McQueen	22
Shinako Vance	21
Joel DeWitt	21
Amelia Hernandez	21
Rita Kimble	20



## Library

Carol Anne Tucker-Watt	24+
Marietta Leffner	25+
Carolyn (Silva) Kitchen	22+

## Public Works/General Services

Rick Ranger	31
Madlin King	26
Mark Grosenheider	26

## Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office

Vicki Briseno	33+
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\*Information as reported to County Clips  
by County Departments

## DISTRICT I – Supervisor John Gioia

### El Cerrito Office Information:

11780 San Pablo Avenue, Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530  
Phone: (510) 231-8686 • Fax: 510-374-3429  
Email: [John\\_Gioia@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:John_Gioia@bos.cccounty.us)

## DISTRICT II – Supervisor Candace Andersen

### San Ramon Valley Office Information:

309 Diablo Road, Danville, CA 94526  
Phone: (925) 957-8860 • Fax: (925) 820-3785  
Email: [candace.andersen@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:candace.andersen@bos.cccounty.us)

### Lamorinda Office Information:

3338 Mt. Diablo Road, Lafayette, CA 94549  
Phone: 925-646-6067 • Fax: 925-646-6068

## DISTRICT III – Supervisor Mary N. Piepho

### Brentwood Main Office Information:

3361 Walnut Blvd., Suite 140, Brentwood, CA 94513  
Phone: 925-252-4500 • Fax: 925-240-7261  
Email: [Dist3@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:Dist3@bos.cccounty.us)

### South County Satellite Office Information:

4115 Blackhawk Plaza Circle, Suite 100-19, Danville, 94506  
Phone: 925-252-4500 • Fax: 925-648-7740

## Board of Supervisors Office Locations

## DISTRICT IV – Supervisor Karen Mitchoff

### Concord Office Information:

2151 Salvio Street, Suite R, Concord, CA 94520  
Phone: 925-521-7100 • Fax: 925-646-5202  
Email: [Dist4@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:Dist4@bos.cccounty.us)

## DISTRICT V – Supervisor Federal D. Glover

### Pittsburg Office Information:

315 East Leland Road, Pittsburg, CA 94565  
Phone: 925-427-8138 • Fax: 925-427-8142  
Email: [District5@bos.cccounty.us](mailto:District5@bos.cccounty.us)

### Martinez Office Information:

651 Pine Street, 4th Floor, Martinez, CA 94553  
Phone: 925-335-8200 • Fax: 925-335-8208

### Hercules Office Information:

151 Linus Pauling Drive, Hercules, CA 94547  
Phone: 510-262-8800 • Fax: 510-262-8808





## Earn It! Keep It! Save It!

Many Bay Area residents do not know that they may be eligible for an Earned Income Tax Credit of up to \$5,891. Locally only about 3% of eligible households receive free tax preparation.

In addition to what these refunds mean to a family's pocket book, it's estimated that 80% of tax refunds are spent locally, generating business and sales, which leads to new jobs. Since 2003, Earn It! Keep It! Save It! tax refunds are estimated to have generated at least \$228.5 million in sales, \$55 million in wages and 1,057 jobs.

Get your taxes prepared for free with Earn It! Keep It! Save It! Trained tax preparers are helping thousands of local residents. To qualify, your 2012 income must be less than \$51,000. With more than 200 Bay Area locations, find a site near you call 211

or visit [www.earnitkeepitsaveit.org/find-free-tax-help](http://www.earnitkeepitsaveit.org/find-free-tax-help).

## Senior Counseling

### You Can Make a Difference: Senior Peer Counseling

Connecting seniors with services and lending a supportive ear are the keys to success for Contra Costa County's Senior Peer Counseling

program. More than two decades of support have come from the program targeting those over the age of 55, and Spanish and Chinese speaking seniors now have volunteers to help them as well. There are a total of 65 Senior Peer Counselors assisting seniors in the community. Preparation for the volunteers is extensive, and afterwards they continue to receive in-service training, and are closely supervised by mental health professionals. Clients receive assistance either one-on-one or sometimes in group settings in senior centers or assisted living facilities.

Seniors face a wide variety of issues, from depression and financial problems, to difficulty navigating legal hurdles. The Elder Court Support Program within the unit has been particularly successful at connecting seniors to resources they need, leading it to receive the prestigious Ralph N. Kleps Award for Innovations in the California courts.

The program is always looking for new volunteers willing to serve as peer advisors; if you are interested or know someone who might be a good fit, please contact the Senior Peer Counseling Program at 925-521-5640.



## Workforce Development Board's New Strategic Plan

The Workforce Development Board of Contra Costa County (WDB) is embarking on the development of a new strategic plan that will help drive economic and workforce development in Contra Costa County and the greater East Bay. As a part of this process, we invite you to participate in a brief [survey](#) to get your input on key issues and trends that are influencing both the current recovery and our longer term economic outlook.

For more information about and to get more involved with the WDB's strategic planning efforts, please visit the [strategic planning page](#) on the WDB website. The WDB will be holding community forums in early spring to share some of the survey results and get additional input from the community about our plan. Please visit our website at: [www.wdbccc.com](http://www.wdbccc.com).